

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 PM-04 PA-02 PRS-01 INR-07 SIG-02 MMO-04 ISO-00
/030 R

DRAFTED BY EA/P:STAFF:VDC

APPROVED BY EA/P:MSMITH

-----102014Z 127640 /45

R 101634Z FEB 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO CINCPAC

COGARD

GOVGUAM

TREASURY

UNCLAS STATE 030362

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: FEBRUARY 10 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. INDOCHINA/THAILAND

ROGERS REPORTS THAT CAMBODIA ACCUSED THAILAND
OF MIL AGGRESSION AND NUMEROUS BORDER VIOLATIONS IN NOTE
CIRCULATING AMONG EMBASSIES IN PEKING. CLAIMS THAI
ORGANIZING OPPOSITION. FAILS TO MENTION RECENT MASSACRE
(REUTERS). RTG OFFICIALS SAY CAMBS PURSUING GUERILLAS
CROSSED THAI BORDER AND BURN DOWN 16 VILLAGE HOUSES IN
SAME AREA AS RECENT MASSACRE (REUTERS).

LAO FOMIN SPOKESMAN PROTEST VS THAI MILITARY FIRING ON
PATHET LAO TROOPS WHO WERE PURSUING FLEEING LAO IN BORDER
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AREA WITH NONGKAI PROVINCE. SAYS INCIDENT COULD DAMAGE
RELS BETWEEN COUNTRIES. THAI POLICE ACKNOWLEDGE FIRING
INCIDENT (REUTERS).

2. THAILAND

FIELD WITH ONE TRILLION CU FT OF NATURAL GAS DISCOVERED IN
GULF OF THAILAND ACCORDING TO RTG MINISTER. TEXAS PACIFIC
CORP FINDS GAS 110 MILES SOUTH OF SIMILAR FIND BY UNION
OIL (REUTER).

MCARTHUR (LAT 2/9) SAYS RTG QUIETLY SHELVES CLEAN-UP PLANS AND SAYS STANDARD THAI NIGHTLIFE REUTRNS. NATIONAL TOURIST OFFICE REPORTS 90 OF TOURISTS FROM MALAYSIA AND SINGAPORE ARE UNACCOMPANIED MALES WHO "ARE NOT COMING TO SEE THE TEMPLES."

3. VIETNAM

COALITION OF GROUPS URGING NORMAL RELS WITH VN AND END TO TRADE AND TRAVEL BARS MEETS ON CAPITOL HILL. OLD LINE LEADERS CORA WEISS, DON LUCE AGAIN ARE LEADING FIGURES. CONGRESSMAN OTTINGER SAYS ADMINISTRATION SHOULD INITIATE HIGH LEVEL NEGOTS WITH VN ON ALL OUTSTANDING ISSUES INCLUDING MIAS (AP).

LAST OF FOUR ARTICLES BY REUTER REPORTER RAM SURESH WHO VISITED NVN W/FRENCH TOURISTS REPORTS ON EXPANDING ECONOMY. NOTES COMMON SIGHT OF JAPANESE BUSINESSMEN AS WELL AS ARRIVALS OF PHILS AND SINGAPORE BUSINESS GROUPS. FRENCH ECO PRESENCE STRONG W/HELP IN EXPANDING STEEL PLANT AND SIZEABLE TOURISM. REPORTS RECENTLY DEPARTED ADB DELEGATION IMPRESSED BY WHAT VIETS DOING FOR THEMSLEVES, ESPECIALLY IN AGRICULTURE. REPORTS THAT VIETS ARE CONFIDENT THAT US AID WOULD EVENTUALLY BE COMING.

4. CHINA

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IN SPEECH PREPARED FOR WEDNESDAY NIGHT DELIVERY BEFORE KC (MO) LAWYERS ASSN, FBI'S KELLEY CHARGED THAT SPYING BY COMMUNIST COUNTRY AGENTS IN US CONTINUES "UNABATED," AND THAT "SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER" SOVIET-BLOC/CHINESE OFFICIALS ST IONED HERE "ARE DIRECTLY CONNECTED" WITH ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES. NOTED NUMBER SOVIET-BLOC OFFICIALS IN US MORE THAN DOUBLED IN 10 YEARS BY 1976, AND ALSO NUMBER PRC REPS HERE "HAS APPRECIATIVELY INCREASED"--BUT HE GAVE NO FIGURES. WARNED TARGETS OF THESE AGENTS ARE "VIRTUALLY ALL-ENCOMPASSING," INCLUDING US POL/ECON/AGRIC/MIL/SCIENTIFIC/TECHNICAL RESOURCES (REUTER 2/9).

SU S MANN REPORTS NEITHER KELLEY NOR OTHER FBI OFFICIALS WOULD SAY WHAT PROMPTED SPEECH; BUT SAYS JUSTICE DEPT OFFICIALS TRIED PLAY DOWN ITS IMPORTANCE, NOTING FBI OFFICIALS IN SEVERAL HILL APPEARANCES LAST YEAR HAD SAID ESPIONAGE IN US CONTINUING. ADDS WHILE NO ONE WITHIN JUSTICE SAW SPEECH BEFORE RELEASED, FBI SPOKESMAN ASSERTED BOTH WH/JUSTICE "ARE AWARE OF THE GENERAL TOPIC" OF KELLEY'S SPEECHES BEFORE DELIVERY. OPPENHEIMER (WSTAR 2/9) ALSO REPORTS "COULD NOT BE DETERMINED (TUES) WHAT MOTIVATED KELLEY," EXPECTED LEAVE OFFICE BY YEAR'S END, TO SCHEDULE SPEECH AT THIS TIME ON THIS TOPIC. REUTER (PEKING) NOTES 3 MONTHS AFTER PRC BEGAN BUILDING

MAO MAUSOLEUM, SPIDERY NETWORK OF SAFFOLDING/CRANES DOMINATES CITY'S SKYLINE, AS WORK PROGRESSES. SEVERAL BUILDINGS AROUND SOUTH END OF "SQUARE OF HEAVENLY PEACE" DEMOLISHED TO MAKE WAY FOR CONSTRUCTION, AND SMALL PARK HAS DISAPPEARED.

THURS PRAVDA ISSUED FIRST DIRECT CRITICISM OF PRC APPEARING IN SOVIET PRESS SINCE MAO'S DEATH, ACCUSING PEKING OF MAKING "COLD-WAR" ATTACKS ON MOSCOW. BUT CRITICISM, DIRECTED SPECIFICALLY AT OFFICIAL CHINESE DOCUMENT ANNOUNCING CONFERENCE IN PEKING, WAS IN LOW-KEY, CONTAINED UNCLASSIFIED

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NO INDICATION INTENDED SIGNAL RESUMPTION FULL-SCALE POLEMICS BY SOVIET (REUTER MOSCOW).

5. CHINA/JAPAN

JETRO ANNOUNCED WEDNESDAY THAT PRC ENJOYED FAVORABLE FOREIGN TRADE BALANCE LAST YEAR FOR FIRST TIME IN 3 YEARS, RECORDING SURPLUS ESTIMATED BY JAPANESE AT SOMETHING ABOVE 900 MILL DOLS. JAPAN'S TRADE WITH PEKING TOTALED APPROXIMATELY 3 BILLION LAST YEAR--DROP OF AROUND 20 PCT COMPARED WITH SUCH TRADE IN 1975. IMBALANCE OF AROUND 300 MILL DOLS WAS IN TOKYO'S FAVOR LAST YEAR (JOC'S CULLISON, TOKYO).

6. JAPAN

JAPAN/W EUR SHIPPING NATIONS AGREE COOPERATE IN DISTRIBUTING NEW ORDERS BETW NOW AND 12/78. IN 15-PT DECLARATION DRAWN UP AT OECD MTG PARIS, COUNTRIES HAVE AGREED WORK TOWARDS REDUCTION IN SHIP PRICE DISPARITIES (RYAN, JOC). JAPAN'S REP TERMED COUNTRY'S PROPOSALS "MAXIMUM EFFORT"; W EUR SOURCES TERMED THEM "STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION" (AP, SUN).

NYC'S CITIBANK SAYS W INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES CANNOT REASONABLY EXPECT JAPAN SIMULTANEOUSLY RESTRICT EXPORTS/CONTRIBUTE TO WORLD ECON RECOVERY THIS YR. CITIBANK NOTES CRITICS JAPAN'S ECON POL OFTEN IGNORE FACT COUNTRY'S BOP STRUCTURE REQUIRES LARGE SURPLUS IN MERCHANDISE TRADE (REUTER 2/8).

JAPAN'S '76 IRON/STEEL EXPORTS TO US MARKED RECORD INCREASE OF 30.1 PCT OVER '75. TOTAL IRON/STEEL EXPORTS ALSO ROSE RECORD 23 PCT (AP, NYT; CULLISON, JOC).

AT TOKYO PRESS CONF, JAPAN'S FAIR TRADE COMM CHRMN SAID UNCLASSIFIED

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US HAS PROPOSED BILATERAL AGREEMENT TO CONTROL ANTI-

MONOPOLY LAW VIOLATIONS, SUCH AS INTL CARTELS BY MULTINATLS (REUTER TOKYO).

US DOLLAR SLUMPED ON TOKYO EX 2/9 ON RENEWED SPECULATION YBN/MARK VALUE WILL CLIMB 10 PCT IN COMING MONTHS (NYT, JOC).

STOCK PRICES ON TOKYO EX FELL 2/9 AMID ACTIVE TRADING. NIKKEI DOW JONES AVG FELL 18.59 PTS (WSJ).

KAMM (NYT) REPORTS FROM TOHOKU. SAYS TOWN AMONG POOREST IN JAPAN, THO BY ASIAN STANDARDS LIFE ISN'T SO BAD--PEOPLE HAVE CARS/WELL-STOCKED STORES/COLOR TVS.

7. KOREA

HOUSE UNANIMOUSLY AUTHORIZED 2/9 FULL-SCALE INVESTIGATION INTO ALLEGATIONS ROKG SOUGHT BUY SUPPORT FROM CONGRESS W/ILLEGAL GIFTS/CONTRIBUTIONS (EDSALL, SUN; BABOCK, WP HALLORAN, NYT; AP, GLOBE). APPROVAL RULES CMTE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZES 530,000 DOLS FOR INQUIRY/PERMITS SUBPOENAS/ALLOWS INVESTIGATION PRESENT/FORMER CONGRESSMEN, IMMEDIATE FAMILIES, ASSOCIATES (REUTER 2/9).

SARRO (WSTAR 2/9) REPORTS HOUSE ETHICS CMTE, USING US LEGAL CHANNELS, HAS OBTAINED ASSURANCE R8KG FOR COOPERATION IN PANEL'S INVESTIGATION PAYOFFS TO US CONGRESSMEN. CMTE OFFICIALS REFUSED DISCUSS MATTER; UNKNOWN HOW MUCH DOS PARTICIPATED IN NEGOTS. CMTE CHRMN FLYNT SAID HE HAD REASON BELIVE ASSURANCES "WOULD BE WITHDRAWN," W/CMTE TIED UP IN COURT TRYING GET DESIRED INFO.

PARK TONG SUN'S US FRIENDS HAVE DISCLOSED PARK'S ASSERTION UNCLASSIFIED

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HE WAS ORGANIZING FORCE BEHIND DIPLOMAT NATL BANK, NOW UNDER WIDE-RANGE FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD INVESTIGATION. SOURCES SAY PARK HAD CONCEIVED IDEA/ PULLED TOGETHER INVESTORS, INCL MOON GROUP/PROVIDED SOME OF INITIAL 2-MILDOL INVESTMENT (HALLORAN, NYT).

GENRL ELECTRIC HAS RECEIVED ORDER FROM KOREA ELECTRIC FOR 2 POWER PLANTS AT TOTAL VALUE 146 MIL DOLS (JOC).

SKOREAN SPONSORS SAY MUHAMMAD ALI PERSONALLY PICKED SEOUL AS SPOT FOR NEXT TITLE DEFENSE IN MAY (SIHO, REUTER SEOUL).

MOON CHURCH BUYS NYC'S OLD TIFFANY BLDG FOR 2.4 MIL DOLS; PLANS USE IT AS HDQTRS FOR MONTH-OLD "FUTURISTIC" NEWS-

PAPER. NYC TAX COMM TO DECIDE WITHIN NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS
WHETHER PROPERTY WILL GAIN TAX-FREE STATUS (CLAIBORNE, WP).

8. PHILIPPINES

AMCIT/3 FILS WHO PLEADED GUILTY TO PLOTTING ASSASSINATE
MARCOS EACH SENTENCED SIX YRS AT HARD LABOR BY MIL COURT,
FINED 2,224 DOLS (REUTER MANILA).

9. MALAYSIA

MALAYSIA PRODUCED RECORD 1.4 MIL TONS PALM OIL IN '76,
BRINGING ITS SHARE WORLD EXPORTS TO 70 PCT (JOC).

10. GENERAL

NEWMAN (WSJ) DOES ITEM ON INDIAN MONEYLENDERS' LUCRATIVE
BUSINESS IN ASIAN CITIES. VISITS 1 IN MALAYSIA, 1 IN
SINGAPORE. FINDS ALTHO THEY ARE LEGAL, MOST STILL PREFER
BEING SECRETIVE. CLIENTS PAY 18-24 PCT INTEREST, BUT
WORTH PRICE TO THOSE EMBARRASSED ABOUT BORROWING IN
"PUBLIC VIEW" FROM BANKS.
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COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

11. CHINA

CSM FEELS CARTER'S HAVING HUANG CHEN IN FOR WH CHAT IN
EARLY DAYS OF ADMIN WAS GOOD MOVE ON PRES' PART; GESTURE,
FOLLOWING TALK WITH DOBRYNIN AND WELL AHEAD OF OTHER
DELS, DOUBTLESS WILL NOT BE LOST ON PEKING. MOVE WAS
FRIENDLY/USEFUL WAY OPENING DOOR FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS.

HEARST'S WALLACH (BALT NA 2/9) OBSERVES CARTER, WHETHER
DELIBERATELY OR NOT, AT FIRST NEWS CONF BAITED SOVIET TO
ACCEPT NEW NUKE ARMS DEAL/MORE TOLERANCE FOR SOVIET
DISSIDENTS--BY REVEALING HUANG CHEN HAD EXPRESSED PRC
INTEREST IN NEGOTIATIONS LIMITING ITS GROWTH AS NUKE
POWER. TO WALLACH, THIS MUST HAVE BEEN "MOST OVERLOOKED
BLOCKBUSTER" OF MANY PRESIDENTIAL PRESS CONFERENCES.

MUNRO (TORONTO GLOBE AND MAIL) FINDS INCREASING AMOUNT
OF CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE THAT TOP PRC LEADERSHIP IS
FAILING PROVIDE FIRM SENSE POL DIRECTION BECAUSE SPLIT
ON SOME BASIC ISSUES, SUCH AS TENG'S RETURN- ANTI-RADICAL
CAMPAIGN SHOWING INCREASING SIGNS OF FALTERING, AND MORE
PERVASIVE IS PROBLEM OF CYNICISM/APATHY AMONG PEOPLE/
LOWER-MIDDLE-RANKING OFFICIALS (WP).

12. LOS

UPI (LAT 2/9) NOTES AFTER 4 LONG WORKING SESSIONS OVER
2-YR PERIOD, CONF WILL BE BACK TO ORIGINAL FOCAL PROBLEM
WHEN RECONVENES IN NY 5/23--PROPERTY/EXPLOITATION RIGHTS
OVER DEEP-SEA MINERAL RICHES. REMARKS IF ANY MEMBER WORLD
COMMUNITY WANTS CLAIM ITS SHARE, MUST DEPEND ON US TECH-
NOLOGY. BELIEVES IF NO AGREEMENT REACHED, US CAN BE
EXPECTED AUTHORIZE OWN MINING OPNS WITHIN FORESEEABLE
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FUTURE.
VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 22-Sep-1999 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS SUMMARIES
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Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3233667
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FEBRUARY 10 EA PRESS SUMMARY
TAGS: PFOR, XC, US
To: ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS MOSCOW MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/104d1fbf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009